



PIED-A- TERROR

**Mamdani puts
people in danger
by posting a
'rich to be taxed'
list publicly**

Mayor Mamdani's administration posted a list of property owners it believes might have to pay the new "pied a terre" tax for second homes in the city — publicly naming and shaming people for their wealth, and

often falsely stating they aren't full-time residents. Critics said the list is putting people at risk of targeted left-wing violence.

PAGES 4-7



Kin mourn as Bx. boy's 'killer' jailed



By KEVIN SHEEHAN, ANTHONY BLAIR and JORDAN DONEGAN

The career criminal accused of killing the innocent 12-year-old son of a retired NYPD cop outside a Bronx bodega was locked up without bail on a slew of serious charges, including second-degree murder.

William Ferrer, 45, was arraigned Sunday night on murder, assault and weapons charges after police said he opened fire during a fight in the South Bronx, killing 12-year-old Jacob Freytes and wounding two others.

Freytes, the son of retired NYPD Detective Sgt. Jesus Freytes, was "struck in the chest" by a stray bullet during the Saturday afternoon burst of gun violence, and died later at a Bronx hospital, according to the criminal complaint.

On Monday, the slain boy's mother was joined by friends and relatives outside the family's apartment building, where a memorial for her son displayed candles, a football, flowers, toys, sympathy cards and a portrait of Jacob.

The heartbroken mom, identified by neighbors as Migdalia Martinez, was too distraught to speak.

"We're all standing with this family," neighbor Julio Lopez said. "There's nothing we can say or do.



HEARTBREAK: Neighbors console Migdalia Martinez, mom of slain 12-year-old Jacob Freytes (oval), at their Bronx home Monday, while William Ferrer (left) was denied bail in the shooting.

Stephen Yang, Kevin C. Downs, Facebook

'Scar on this community'



Love your loved ones, give your kids a hug today and every day."

He urged neighborhood thugs to put their weapons away. "There's a scar on this community," Lopez said. "Tomorrow is not promised. This is heartbreaking. Put the guns down. Put your fists up. Get some boxing gloves. Fight it out."

Missell Ventura, whose daughter was friends with Jacob, called the tragic youngster "a beautiful boy. "I don't feel safe," Ventura said. "I don't think my daughter can go to school by herself. I don't let her go to the store.

"Sometimes I don't want to go outside because it's always a shooting," she said. "There's nowhere to be safe. It's out of control."

Two men were also hit during the shooting and were treated at local hospitals, the complaint states.

According to law-enforcement sources, the accused gunman was trying to settle a score for his brother with the other men in the group when he opened fire.

Innocent bystander

Freytes, who had cycled to the Wanda Deli Grocery on Elliott Place near Grand Concourse to buy a ball, was an innocent bystander, police said.

Heartbreaking security video showed him watching the fight before a man pulled out a gun and started shooting, at which point Freytes clutched his chest and ran

back into the bodega.

Ferrer was charged with second-degree murder, second-degree attempted murder, first-degree manslaughter, first-degree assault, second-degree assault and two counts of second-degree criminal possession of a weapon, according to the complaint.

He was remanded in custody at Rikers Island. No details were given about his next court hearing.

Ferrer has a lengthy rap sheet, with half a dozen arrests, including drug possession in 2013, marijuana possession in 2009, drunk-driving in 2009, and possession of stolen property in The Bronx in 2004, police sources told The Post.

Additional reporting by Joe Marino, Marie Pohl and Jorge Fitz-Gibson

Bruce gagged at Bronx parade

Democrats blocked Republican gubernatorial candidate Bruce Blakeman from speaking during the Bronx Dominican Day Parade on Sunday, with one state pol admitting she snubbed him over ties to President Trump.

Blakeman wasn't given the chance to address the crowd during part of the celebration on the Grand Concourse that involved comments from Mayor Mandani and Public Advocate Jumaane Williams.

The Republican, who is the Nassau County executive, was told by lefty Assemblywoman Amanda Septimo he couldn't speak, although some in the crowd called out to "Let him speak!"

"This is exactly what life under socialism is like," Blakeman told The Post. "Where free speech is prohibited and only one party gets to communicate with the public."

Blakeman added that he was "invited by leaders of the Dominican community to speak."

"It is clear that Democrat socialists don't want the truth to be told: that their policies will make people more miserable," he said.

Septimo openly admitted, "I said no" and kept the mic from Blakeman, whose opponent, Gov. Hochul, missed the event to attend Hamptons fundraisers.

"I don't think it was appropriate for him to speak before a crowd full of immigrants; someone who has spewed such rhetoric," Septimo said. *Carl Campanile and Alex Mitchell*

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■ Pick-10 Mon.: 2, 5, 9, 10, 13, 18, 21, 23, 25, 36, 40, 41, 47, 51, 52, 58, 59, 64, 69, 76
■ Millionaire for Life Mon.: 8, 21, 29, 49, 53; MB: 3

■ Powerball Mon.: 6, 26, 46, 58, 65; PB: 25; PP: 2; DP: 17, 25, 59, 61, 69; PB: 14
NEW JERSEY
■ Pick-3 Mon.: 981; Fireball: 7
■ Pick-4 Mon.: 8049; Fireball: 7
■ Cash-5 Xtra Mon.: 1, 8, 9, 14, 20; Xtra: x4
■ Pick-6 Mon.: 2, 6, 8, 22, 28, 34; DP: 1, 4, 9, 11, 28, 36
CONNECTICUT
■ Play-3 Mon.: 656; Wild: 6
■ Play-4 Mon.: 9768; Wild: 7
■ Cash-5 Mon.: 4, 11, 12, 22, 30

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BEYLI

Trapped for 29 days.

Poodle's rubble rescue

Astonishing video shows a poodle being rescued alive after being trapped for 29 days in the rubble of a building that collapsed during the Venezuela earthquakes that killed more than 5,500 people.

The dog, Beyli, was found covered in dust when rescuers discovered him last week curled up next to the body of his owner's dead mother, Diario de Morelos reported.

He became trapped when two devastating earthquakes — magnitudes 7.2 and 7.5 — struck the Venezuelan port city of Catia La Mar on June 24, destroying the building.

The video shows him getting water from firefighters as he was first rescued from the rubble.

Remarkably, he is expected to make a full recovery — despite going without food or water for a month.

"Really it is a miracle," a vet known only as Mirna said.

Chris Bradford

Climbers get rock back

The daredevil darlings who landed in cuffs after scaling the Empire State Building in a wildly viral engagement stunt earlier this month finally got their ring back — and gave Manhattan prosecutors a shout-out.

Exhibitionist pair Angela Nikolau, 33, and Ivan Kuznetsov, 32, posted Instagram photos of their reclaimed rock in an array that also included snaps from the foolish July 1 feat. "We got the ring back!" Nikolau crowed. "Huge thanks to the prosecutor!" Amanda Woods

Circus performer hit in neck by arrow

BOW & ERROR:

Edwin Cuervo Rangel (far right) was hit Friday night by wife Ana Daza Tavera, his traveling "Duo Darwin" partner. They perform tricks, including shooting objects inches above an assistant's head.



Instagram/@beverlydazatavera

CROSSBOW TRICK GONE WRONG

By JARED DOWNING

Give these daredevils the Darwin Award.

The performer who took an arrow to the neck during a circus stunt gone wrong is part of a traveling crossbow-firing act called "Duo Darwin."

Edwin Cuervo Rangel, 38, was airlifted to the hospital after an ill-fated stunt at the Orange County Fair in the Hudson Valley on Friday.

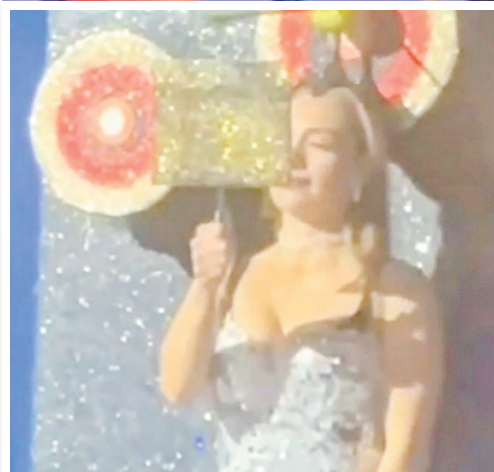
The act involves trick shots with the deadly weapon fired backward or in pitch darkness, according to videos posted online.

An archer — prancing around in sequined costumes — shoots balloons out of an assistant's mouth or bull's-eyes targets inches away from their head.

On Friday night, he stood by the target as archer Ana Daza Tavera, 42, took aim.

This time, the crossbow bolt found Cuervo Rangel's neck as horrified crowds looked on.

"Well, last night, unfortunately, when she shot the crossbow, it caught him in his neck," Circus Murcia Ringmaster Ben-



jamin Jackson told News 12.

Cuervo Rangel was flown from the fairgrounds in Wallkill, NY, to a hospital, where he

remains in stable condition, according to authorities.

The daredevil has performed crossbow stunts for years, both as an archer and an assistant, often with his wife Bevin-

gentina. Circus Murcia owner Alexander Murcia confirmed the inci-

dent in a statement and said Cuervo Rangel is expected to make "a full recovery," according to the Hudson Valley Post. "Our thoughts remain with him during his recovery, and we sincerely appreciate the outstanding care provided by the first responders, medical team, and everyone who assisted," Murcia said.

Police said an investigation into the incident is still ongoing.

jdowning@nypost.com

Beverly Daza Tavera/Instagram



THE RED APPLE

Spiter Mam & his evil web

ZOHHRAN MAMDANI's perma-smile belongs not to the friendly, well-intentioned neighborhood socialist he's advertised himself as, but to a toothy, vindictive predator.

The mayor pushed through his pied-à-terre tax — a surcharge attached to second homes valued at over \$1 million by the city — this spring.

And he's been licking his chops ever since.

"If you have a second home in New York City worth more than \$5M, check your mailbox when you're back in the five boroughs — because you've got mail," he crooned last week before promising the initiative would yield "the best parks, libraries, and schools in the world."

It was a dubious, misleading prediction about a destructive policy that will be shouldered by people of much more modest means than Mamdani would ever admit.

But it also paled in comparison to what came next.

City Hall has published a list of not just the addresses it expects to be subject to the tax, but the names of their owners.

It was a stunt that could have been ripped from the "Joker."

Intimidate & harass

As he had boasted, his administration already privately informed the relevant homeowners of their impending fate. So what was the purpose of outing them publicly?

The obvious yet disturbing answer is that the mayor wants to punish his targets for the crime of investing in his city by opening them up to intimidation, harassment and even acts of violence.

It's reckless to the point of being unfit for any office, much less the one he holds.

Back in April, the mayor celebrated the impending tax by filming himself standing outside of the building that hosts GOP donor Ken Griffin's penthouse, and complaining that Griffin's purchase of it was

part and parcel of "a fundamentally unfair system that hurts working New Yorkers."

The intention behind naming and shaming Griffin was clear: create a villainous foil for his signature policy.

Never mind that the benevolent billionaire has already given away over \$2 billion of his own wealth. And never mind the personal consequences of this arbitrary call-out for Griffin.

The self-assured socialist can always use his ill-conceived ends to justify malicious means.

Violent times

Mamdani's continued targeting of private citizens he's turned into political punching bags is particularly disturbing in light of recent history.

After all, the far-left movement from which he hails is an increasingly violent one.

It was only a little over a year and a half ago that Luigi Mangione allegedly murdered UnitedHealthcare CEO Brian Thompson in cold blood in Midtown, and in the name of the same toxic ideas that Mamdani peddles, too.

Thompson, three attempts on Donald Trump's life, the assassination of Charlie Kirk, the firebombing of a Holocaust survivor in Colorado and so many attacks on Jews in the Big Apple they could all be categorized as part of a one extended pogrom; none of it has proven enough to dissuade Mamdani from endangering the lives of still more innocents.

"We will replace the frigidity of rugged individualism with the warmth of collectivism," vowed Mamdani in his inaugural address. "If our campaign demonstrated that the people of New York yearn for solidarity, then let this government foster it."

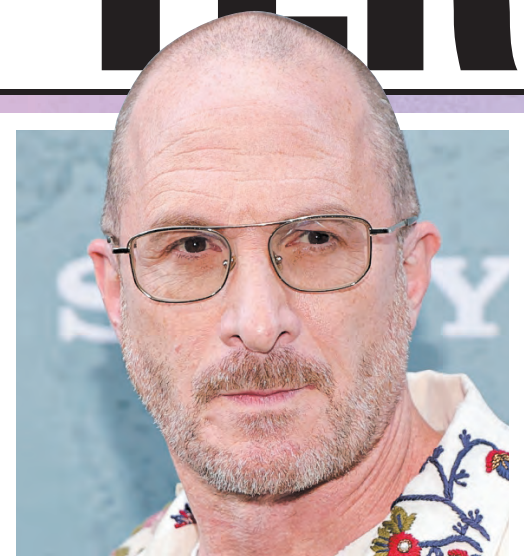
In hindsight, it sounds more like a threat than a promise.

Because his ruthless brand of collectivism means turning the temperature up until the heat starts to claim victims.

ISAAC SCHORR



'DOX'TER



BOLD-FACE NAMES: Lefty activist-actress Cynthia Nixon (left), director Darren Aronofsky (right) and magazine editor Anna Wintour (far right) have homes on the newly released list.

By LAUREN ELKIES SCHRAM,
GREG CARLTON
and CHRIS NESI

A veritable who's-who of the Big Apple's upper crust — from movie stars to billionaire philanthropists — were named and had their addresses revealed on a list of New Yorkers who might be subject to the state's new pied-à-terre tax.

Documents posted on the city Department of Finance web page identified hundreds of thousands of entities who could find themselves in the crosshairs of the Mayor Mamdani-backed tax on luxury second homes.

The big names spotted by The Post scattered throughout the list included luminaries spanning the worlds of business, politics and the arts — such as actress and failed New York gubernatorial candidate Cynthia Nixon, a devoted Mamdani supporter.

Taylor's there

Taylor Swift's Tribeca residence also seems to have made the cut, listed as being owned by the company "Euro Tribeca LLC."

Oscar-nominated director Darren Aronofsky is among the celebrities to appear on the document, along with an Upper East Side residence owned by the "Woody Allen 2005 Revocable Trust" and another owned by filmmaker Martin Scorsese.

Terre sheet of movers & shakers

Addresses listed under author and New Age guru Deepak Chopra, legendary journalist Gay Talese and the trust of late "60 Minutes" anchor Morley Safer also appear on the list.

Fashion world icon Anna Wintour is also named on the list, as is her downtown Manhattan address. In April, Wintour famously gushed she was "full of admiration" for Mamdani's wife and New York City First Lady Rama Duwaji, despite her having liked a de-ranked social media post calling the Oct. 7, 2023, terror attack against Israel a "mass rape hoax" that The New York Times "fabricated."

A residence connected to

former Mayor Eric Adams' first deputy mayor, Randy Mastro, was on the list.

Not one but two City Council members appeared on the document, which was only supposed to list non-primary residences, including District 6 Democrat Gale Brewer, who said of her Upper West Side brownstone, "I've been living in [my place] 365 days a year since 1994. So this whole list must be messed up."

Joining Brewer was Council Minority Leader David Carr (R-Staten Island).

City Hall and the DOF did not comment Monday.

Additional reporting by Craig McCarthy



20'S HIT LIST



Getty Images for 2026 Teen Vogue Fest; Bruce Gilkies/Getty Images; Getty Images

By CRAIG McCARTHY
and CHRIS NESI

Mayor Mamdani's administration has published a searchable database of Big Apple properties that could fall under the state's new pied-à-terre tax, effectively doxxing thousands of wealthy New Yorkers.

The city's Department of Finance uploaded the comprehensive list — which purports to cover all unoccupied, non-primary residences in the five boroughs worth north of \$1 million — including the full names and addresses of every property owner. "It's a reckless and foolish move, especially considering there are potentially thousands of properties on this list that do not qualify as second homes or whose owners will successfully dispute their inclusion," Council Minority Leader David Carr (R-Staten Island) — whose own home appears on the list — told The Post Monday.

The move follows a widely panned X post by the mayor in which he put wealthy residents on notice to "check your mailbox when you're back in the five boroughs, because you've got mail," a warning that notification letters were on their way.

"The best city in the world deserves the best parks, libraries, and schools in the world. That's only possible when we all pay our fair share," Mamdani wrote Thursday.

Middle-class homes

The socialist darling has long touted the policy enacted by Gov. Hochul and Albany Democrats to tax second homes in the city — though critics have warned it could cause property values to plummet.

Mamdani threatened to raise city property taxes by a staggering 9.5% in February unless he was allowed to "tax the rich" to cover a \$12 billion budget gap that was later revised down to \$5.4 billion.

City Hall estimates the pied-à-terre tax would yield \$500 million per year for the Big Apple's budget.

But Democratic city Comptroller Mark Levine's office said the real figure would be closer to \$340 million to \$380 million and could diminish over time.



Mayor Mamdani/X

Well, today we're taxing the rich.

Rich are in 'pied' viper's sights

Unsurprisingly, the colossal database of names and addresses included several A-list New Yorkers, including director Woody Allen, longtime Vogue editor Anna Wintour and actress Cynthia Nixon — a loyal Mamdani supporter.

What is surprising is the document's sheer size and some of the properties included.

Citywide, The Post counted over 960,000 residences and individuals listed as potentially in line to be hit with Mamdani's pied-à-terre tax, even though just 31,000 homes were supposed to be subjected to the new levy as he and Hochul initially sold it to the public.

Many of the homes included in the database appeared to be misaligned with a tax aimed at well-heeled residents with multimillion-dollar vacation homes, including some two dozen modest homes on Chaffee Avenue in working-class Throggs Neck in The Bronx.

Challenger Drive on Staten Island was another middle-class enclave with dozens of addresses appearing on Mamdani's list, though it wasn't clear that they were in fact second homes.

The average home values on Chaffee Avenue and Challenger Drive ranged from mid-\$500,000s to the low \$800,000s — a far cry from the price tag of your average

New York summer residence.

One address appearing on the list is the Breezy Point Shopping Center in Rockaway, Queens, a small outdoor mall containing several shops, which is definitely not a vacation home.

'Dangerous precedent'

The city chalked the public document up to standard protocol for whenever a new tax is enacted, saying the DOF is required to publish a list of potentially affected residences and that not all of the owners in the data drop would get notice letters.

But the DOF didn't say how it came up with the list of hundreds of thousands of residences — or why it published the names of owners — out of more than 1.1 million owner-occupied homes across the Big Apple.

Steven Fulop, president and CEO of the Partnership for NYC, a nonprofit business advocacy group, called it "a mistake, and a dangerous precedent."

"Publishing names and addresses singles out people who have done nothing wrong, at a moment when the far left already treats success itself as something to be punished," Fulop said.

Additional reporting by Charles Gasparino, Lauren Schram and Greg Carlton



JAY CLAYTON
National intel nomination.

Clayton closer to confirm

WASHINGTON — Jay Clayton cleared his first hurdle in the Senate Monday night to become the next director of national intelligence after a nomination process filled with curveballs.

Clayton cleared a procedural vote, 51-43, along party lines.

If confirmed in a final vote later this week, Clayton will take over for acting DNI Bill Pulte and become the official replacement for Tulsi Gabbard, who stepped down in June.

Senate leader John Thune (R-SD) filed cloture on Clayton's nomination last Wednesday after the vote passed through the Senate Intelligence Committee.

The Senate majority leader argued Clayton's record as the top prosecutor in the Southern District of New York and as chairman of Securities and Exchange Commission "inspires confidence in the type of DNI that he will be." *Ally Goelz*

Tate talk! No X blackout

MIAMI — Andrew Tate's lawyers are taking down his thoughts during their jailhouse meetings so that his team can tweet them out, his attorney revealed Monday.

Tate has been sending posts from behind bars while he awaits extradition for sex abuse and sex trafficking charges — claiming that he's the victim of injustice and horrible conditions in the Miami federal lockup.

"Look, we meet with Andrew every day, we see Andrew," attorney Joseph McBride told The Post outside court. *Alex Diaz*



Red alert during Cannes

Shapely Eva Longoria — sporting a dazzling Sophie Couture strapless corset gown and a diamond-and-ruby collar necklace — stunned the crowds gathered along the red carpet for amfAR's annual gala during the Cannes Film Festival Monday.

maximon/MEGA

CITIES LOSING KIDS

Big pop. decline

By ANTHONY BLAIR

No kids on the block.

The number of young children living in America's big cities has plummeted 15% in the past 10 years, as would-be parents move away or just give up on having kids, thanks to high costs of living and childcare, according to a stunning new analysis.

San Jose, Calif., and Los Angeles saw the biggest decline in the population of kids — down by 20% and 16% between 2015 and 2024. New York City reported a decline of 8% in under-18s.

While the nation's record-low fertility rate has made headlines, in major urban areas, the disappearance of children is even greater.

The number of children under age 5 living in big cities fell 15% between 2015 and 2024, compared with a 7% drop nationwide, a new analysis by the Wall Street Journal found.

The WSJ analyzed the demographic data of America's 38 cities with at least 500,000 residents.

The number of under-18s in big cities also fell 6% in the same time period, compared with 1% nationwide.

Even cities that grew overall in the past decade lost children, with roughly two-thirds of the 38 largest US cities recording a decrease in the population of children.

While many young people are opting not to have children, a large number of parents are also choosing to leave the city.

Parents who moved cited fears about costs, safety, and quality of life, while childless respondents also expressed worries about the financial implications

and lifestyle trade-offs of having a family, according to the WSJ.

San Jose saw the greatest drop in young children, with the number of kids under age 5 dropping more than a third (34%) in the past decade.

Median household incomes in the Silicon Valley hub are nearly twice the US average, pricing out many middle-class families.

"I was just over it," firefighter Ernie Solis told the newspaper, explaining his decision to leave San Jose with his teacher wife and two children.

With daycare costing about \$25,000 for each of his young sons, the couple moved just outside Boise, Idaho, in 2021. Solis now flies into San Jose for work every Monday, staying in free dorms for firefighters during the week and returning to Idaho on Friday.

Los Angeles also saw a drop of 16% in its under-18 population, the second-biggest fall in any major US city.

But even relatively affordable cities are seeing a youth drain, with Albuquerque, NM, losing 15% of its child population, and Milwaukee losing 11% in the past decade.

New York, with an 8% drop, was toward the lower end of the rankings, although the Big Apple's cratering youth population arguably started before that of many other cities. Since 2000, the city has lost a net 80,000 households between 30 and 54 that have a married couple or at least one child, as middle-class families are forced out of the city, according to Melissa Pumphrey, chief economist of New York's Economic Development Corporation.

GOSH, DARN, I'M

New York Post, Tuesday,

By JOSH CHRISTENSON

WASHINGTON — A giant Brooklyn migrant encampment deteriorated into a “dumping ground” and fire hazard — as Biden administration officials ignored pleas by state lawmakers and local officials to fix the problem, emails reviewed by The Post show.

Roughly 2,000 migrants were housed at Floyd Bennett Field between November 2023 and January 2024, when then-Mayor Eric Adams finally shut down what had become a shantytown inside a national historic site.

National Park Service employees were well aware of the safety issues, but told higher-ups the encampment was “clean and well-run,” according to emails first obtained by the Center to Advance Security in America.

“We have always maintained that this situation is not optimal,” FDNY Deputy Assistant Chief Dean Koester wrote in a July 15, 2024, email to NPS official Minka Sendich.

“In fact, we reported that the nearest operable fire hydrant is 2500–3000 feet” from the shelter, Koester added, “and we estimate it will take about 30 minutes to establish a positive water source” in the event of a fire.

‘Perilous’

The hydrants hadn’t received routine maintenance since the airfield was folded into the Gateway National Recreation Area in 1972, and no sprinklers were on site.

The “maze-like” condition of the sleeping arrangements inside the site’s five large tents also would have made it difficult for migrants to evacuate during an emergency, according to Koester.

“The lack of fire protection and dearth of nearby hydrants place shelter residents in a perilous situation,” he warned.

“Biden open border policies wreaked havoc on working-class families across the country, particularly in cities with large minority populations,” said James Fitzpatrick of the Center to Advance Security in America.

“Through aggressive public oversight, CASA obtained documents showing that Biden Na-



CITY ‘DUMP’: Tents stand at the Floyd Bennett Field encampment in January 2024, which housed some 2,000 migrants before it was shut down.

Biden’s Brooklyn migrant camp a tinder box: FDNY

tional Park Service officials kept thousands of illegal aliens crammed into Floyd Bennett Field despite knowing it was unsafe and preventing law-abiding New Yorkers from using the facility as it was intended.”

Months before the email from Koester, NPS officials had crowed about the “great work” being done by the feds in setting up the encampment.

The missive also mentioned litigation against the city led by Democratic Assemblywoman Jaime Williams after asylum-seekers began panhandling in nearby neighborhoods — while parking luxury vehicles outside the park.

“My office has received numerous complaints from residents who are upset about excessive solicitation from migrants who are begging for money, food, and clothing,” Williams told Adams in a Jan. 8, 2024, letter.

“I have witnessed first-hand these incidents occurring and have reached out to the administrators who oversee the site and the response that I got back was that all of the needs of the migrants are being met inside the facility.”

The same day, Williams signed a letter alongside other Brooklyn and Queens officials warning that the park was turning into a “dumping ground which seems

to be deteriorating faster than one could ever have imagined.”

Two days after Williams’ letters, James Madison High School students were booted from their classrooms after migrants took shelter in the school’s gym during a night of heavy wind and rain.

A Republican-led House committee found that the Floyd Bennett Field encampment was established following coordination between Adams, Biden White House senior adviser Tom Perez and Gov. Hochul in August 2023.

Williams and reps for the NPS and Hochul’s office did not respond to requests for comment.

jchristenson@nypost.com



By VICTOR NAVA

Joe Biden appeared confused, struggled to remember facts and lost his train of thought during a series of meandering conversations with his ghostwriter roughly four years before he was elected president.

The former commander-in-chief also repeatedly made reference to retaining classified information in the discussions with his biographer Mark Zwonitzer, according to newly released audio tapes.

The heavily redacted recordings of Biden working on his 2017 memoir with Zwonitzer were released Monday to the House Judiciary Committee and the conservative Oversight Project nonprofit after a two-year-long court battle.

‘Buffering like dial-up’

“We now know what has been long assumed: the autopen scandal extends far back beyond just when Joe Biden ‘ran’ for president from his basement,” Oversight Project President Mike Howell said in a statement.

“These tapes have so many pauses and ‘ums’ that it sounds like Biden is buffering like a dial-up internet connection,” Howell added.

In one part of an interview with Zwonitzer, Biden says, “Alright — what was I going to ask you? Something else . . . Uh . . . um. Oh gosh. I can’t think of anything else.”

In another moment, Biden asks



THE RED APPLE

More say no \$70M for city markets

Zoh for 9/11

By HANNAH FIERICK

Families of 9/11 victims have amassed nearly 17,000 signatures on a petition calling for Mayor Mamdani to stay away from 25th anniversary ceremonies commemorating the devastating tragedy — but Hizzoner casually brushed off their grievances Monday.

Mamdani was questioned about whether he would attend the events honoring the 2,977 innocents murdered in the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks — following mounting pressure from the Change.org petition.

“I will proudly honor the families, the survivors, the first responders forever impacted by that horrific terror attack, by standing alongside them at this year’s 9/11 commemoration — reaffirming that we will never forget the solemn day felt by all of us who call this city home, and frankly, by all of us who call this country home,” Mamdani said.

The petition was spearheaded by Giovanni Galante, who lost his wife, Grace Catherine Galante, 29, to the al-Qaeda attacks on the World Trade Center, The Post reported on Saturday. The online plea, created last week, has racked up at least 16,889 signatures since.

Galante cited several reasons for his concern — including

Mamdani’s reluctance to condemn the phrase “globalize the infitادا” and his associations with individuals like his chief counsel, Ramzi Kassem, who represented al-Qaeda tanker bombing pilot Ahmed al-Darbi.

“This anniversary is one of remembrance grounded in shared American values: respect for the victims, recognition of the gravity of the attacks, and a clear rejection of the ideologies that contributed to such violence,” the petition reads.

First responder John Feal, who spent 11 weeks in the hospital as a result of the attacks, told The Post it was important that the families could grieve on the 25th anniversary of losing their loved ones.

“If they’re gonna be upset by his presence, and that they’re not gonna get that day or a few hours to heal and to hear the loved one’s name without seeing his face, then I support that 100%,” he said. “When you piss off and upset the 9/11 community, it’s a problem.”

Petitioners cited that many people feel Mamdani’s public positions and associations were “hostile” to their cause.

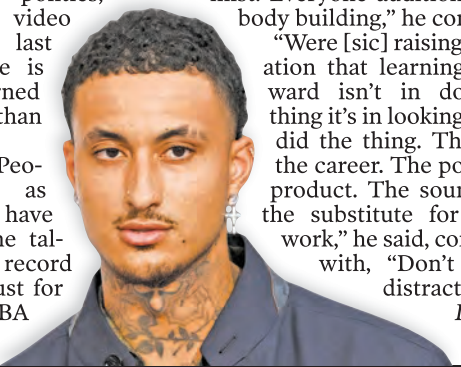
“Stay home, please. And ensure your wife does the same. That in itself would be a service to this city,” wrote one first responder by the name of Debra with her sign-on to the appeal.

NBAer dunks on Zo

NBA star Kyle Kuzma blasted Mayor Mamdani for “cosplaying” as president over his empty threat to arrest Israel Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

The Milwaukee Bucks forward (inset), a frequent critic of progressive politics, said Mamdani’s video address last week proved he is more concerned with “content” than running the city.

“This is 2026. People cosplaying as things they don’t have the authority, the talent, or the track record to actually be. Just for content,” the NBA veteran posted



on X Sunday afternoon in response to Mamdani’s clip.

“A mayor playing president. A founder playing operator. A content creator playing one-on-one thinking he’s a pro. A 25yr old with a ring light playing economist. Everyone auditioning. Nobody building,” he continued.

“Were [sic] raising a generation that learning the reward isn’t in doing the thing it’s in looking like you did the thing. The clip is the career. The pose is the product. The soundbite is the substitute for a life’s work,” he said, concluding with, “Don’t fall for distractions.”

Patrick Reilly

‘COSTCO’ BENEFIT ANALYSIS

BANANA REPUBLIC:

Mayor Mamdani at a food bank Monday touts his plan for 30% discounts on some staples at city-run grocery stores — but at least one critic noted New Yorkers could save more if the funds paid for Costco cards.

By MATTHEW FISCHETTI and CRAIG MCCARTHY

It’s no bargain. Mayor Mamdani’s plan to build government-run supermarkets in all five boroughs will cost taxpayers at least \$70 million — enough to buy Costco memberships for more than 1 million New Yorkers, critics noted.

The social media-focused democratic socialist, who campaigned on government-run markets with a promise to drive down cost, announced plans on Monday for the stores to offer select items at a 30% discount, despite a host of questions about how the program

will work — and how private businesses will be affected.

City Councilwoman Joann Ariola (R-Queens) shot back that “\$70M for slightly discounted produce is ridiculous.

“At this point it would be cheaper to just buy a million Costco memberships. We’d save \$5M in taxpayer funds, and the public can buy their items in bulk. Win-win,” she said.

‘Didn’t work in China’

The estimated price tag just to build the locations — one in each borough — would be enough to buy eight basic Costco \$65 mem-

berships for every resident of East Harlem, or about an eighth of all residents of the Big Apple.

The locations of only two of the five markets have been announced, and the first one won’t open its doors until 2027 at the earliest.

The first store is set to open in the South Bronx neighborhood of Hunts Point at The Peninsula — a former juvenile detention center. A second store is planned in the 9,000-square-foot space La Marqueta in East Harlem.

Councilman Phil Wong (D-Queens) compared the planned stores to something out of Communist China.

“Back in mainland China where





better spent on wholesaler cards: pol



Getty Images

Checkout counterpoint from NYers

By MATTHEW FISCHETTI,
KEVIN SHEEHAN and
JORGE FITZ-GIBBON

The basket of goods comes with a basket of questions.

Mayor Mamdani is pitching a discount of 30% “below typical retail prices” on a “core basket of goods” at proposed city-owned grocery stores — but New Yorkers aren’t buying it.

Folks interviewed by The Post have a list of questions about how the vague discount would work, what items they’d have to choose from and how much it would cost taxpayers.

“F--k that,” said Deborah, 53, a lifelong Harlem resident. “We’re all paying for that. So, all the s--t we buy at the bodega and these little local stores — iced coffee, bags of ice, fruit drinks — that’s never going to be cheaper than in that supermarket.”

“He’s wasting our f--king time and money,” she said.

Mamdani announced Monday that a rotating list of items will be put up at “below typical retail prices,” with items including fresh produce, meat and seafood, plus staples like milk, cheese and bread.

“No exceptions, no gimmicks,” Mamdani vowed at a Brooklyn food pantry.

City Hall projects the mark-down will save shoppers an average of \$90 a month or \$1,000 a year, roughly around 15% off.

The five stores — one in each borough — will cost taxpayers \$70 million to build, according to early estimates. City Hall couldn’t say what subsidizing the discounts will cost.

The city recently put out a request for proposals to private grocer chains to run the stores,

asking bidders to estimate the figure for an annual “Affordability Payment” to cover the losses from lower prices.

The bids are due Oct. 16, and an official operator won’t be selected until spring 2027.

The first store isn’t slated to open until at least late 2027 in the Hunts Point section of The Bronx, with the second, East Harlem’s La Marqueta, not scheduled to open until 2029.

Cart blanch

Shoppers won’t be able to find hot food or other common bodega staples like alcohol, cigarettes or lottery tickets.

“It may not have all the items, but it’s going to be like a typical grocery store,” Economic Development Corporation interim chief Jeanny Pak told reporters Monday.

Asked how the city will stop shoppers from clearing out 30%-off products for resale, Pak said the city was weighing something “library-card-esque” to regulate it.

For everyday New Yorkers, it sounds like pie in the sky.

“That’s stupid,” said city worker Lelina, 55, a West Harlem resident. “You get lower prices when you just shop around. . . . You can buy in bulk and beat 30%.”

Juan Carlos Santiago, a Cuban immigrant from the neighborhood, said it sounds similar to the communist island he fled.

“I grew up with this,” Santiago said. “In the end, it all costs more, and you get less.”

“Thank God, here you can go to another store. Thank God!”

Additional reporting by Lisa Fickenscher

my parents and grandparents fled, these state-owned grocery are price controlled, but, because they are controlled, the shelves are empty,” Wong said.

“The only way for you to buy them when people rush to buy them is to ration ticket,” he added. “It doesn’t work. It’s simple economics, you have a supply and demand issue. We know it doesn’t work, but the only person who doesn’t know it is the mayor.”

Democratic operative Hank Sheinkopf said the plan was good on paper but is now clashing with reality, with the price tag expected to grow.

“It all sounds good until you

have to do it. He’s running a great show,” he said. “It’s like free buses. It’s not going to happen.”

City Hall estimates shoppers will save \$90 a month once the stores open — more than a full year of Costco dues.

Bodegas ‘getting killed’

Meanwhile, small-store owners also worry that the city-subsidized discounts will take a bite out of their business.

“I hear every day that my members’ rent is going up,” Radhames Rodriguez, president of United Bodegas of America, told The Post on Monday. “Sometimes in-

surance companies don’t want to insure your stores.

“We are getting killed by Con Edison,” he added. “A little store is paying \$3,000 to \$6,000 a month . . . for a store that’s 1,500 to 2,500 square feet!”

Request-for-proposal documents detail that operators are required to run a free membership card program that tracks sales and blocks “excessive bulk purchases.”

City Hall and the EDC did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

“We are not looking to compete with bodegas or grocery stores when it comes to their ability to survive,” Mamdani said.

Suspect origins

By JOSH CHRISTENSON

WASHINGTON — Former White House COVID czar Dr. Anthony Fauci privately ruled out a wet market in Wuhan, China, as the source of the pandemic as early as January 2020 despite years of subsequent statements to the contrary, according to explosive diary entries released by Sen. Rand Paul (R-Ky.).

The then-director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases wrote to himself on Jan. 26, 2020: “It now appears using epi data and genomic data that the first infection was in early December and was not connected to the market.”

“The infections spread among people weeks before the Chinese reported that they were dealing with a new infection and that gave the virus time to establish itself in multigenerational (sustained) spread,” he noted. “Remember, early on the Chinese were saying that there is no human-to-human transmission and all the original 27 cases were from the market.”

“Now we know the market was not the source, it was the amplifier,” he underscored, adding that he was still convinced “somewhere the virus jumped from animals to humans.”

‘Never said this to us’

In interviews throughout 2020 and 2021, Fauci maintained that SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, did, in fact, originate in the Wuhan wet market.

An infamous Feb. 1, 2020, phone call that included at least 11 other scientists also debated the origins of COVID, with all but two participants leaning toward a natural spillover from animals to humans.

“The rest felt that deliberate insertion was possible and given the fact that Dr. Zheng-Li Shi at the University of Wuhan has been working for years in GOF [gain of function] in coronaviruses to allow adaptation of the spike protein

Twist in Fauci’s private journal

to bind to the human ACE2 receptor, we could not let this go,” Fauci wrote. Shi, sometimes referred to as the “bat lady” in previously disclosed government emails, was a longtime researcher at the Wuhan Institute of Virology.

The excerpts from more than 1,000 pages of diary entries, which Paul published Saturday, stunned some former Trump administration officials who worked directly with the NIAID chief on the White House COVID Task Force during the first year of the pandemic.

“I was one of the seven original members of the Coronavirus task

force — stood up in January 2020 — and he never said this to us, even as the source was a subject of intense interest,” Ken Cuccinelli, then the acting deputy secretary of the Department of Homeland Security, wrote on X in response to Fauci’s unearthed remarks.

Flip-flop

Asked during a “Fox & Friends” interview on April 3, 2020, whether wet markets should be closed to prevent viruses like COVID from emerging, Fauci responded, “What we’re going through right now is a

direct result of that.”

In November 2021, he told CBS News, “I think you could say we don’t know how and where it originated. There were wet markets in Wuhan that are ample opportunity for a virus to jump from an animal.”

As late as June 2024, he told Congress and wrote in his memoir that a wet market was the most likely origin of the coronavirus.

On Wednesday, Fauci will testify before Paul’s Senate Homeland Committee about his tenure at NIAID and handling of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Contact tracing Doc’s illicit discussions

Former National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Director Dr. Anthony Fauci admitted in newly released diary entries to having several private discussions with a since-indicted adviser whom he disavowed before Congress in June 2024.

For years, Fauci faced intense political and scientific backlash over US funding for the Wuhan Institute of Virology — but denied such experiments for so-called “gain of function” research ever occurred.

The then-NIAID chief also testified that he had no

knowledge of his longtime senior adviser David Morens — indicted in May of this year for concealing and deleting federal records — operating a “‘secret’ back channel” on his behalf to evade Freedom of Information Act requests.

But in the diary entries, which were released by

Sen. Rand Paul (R-Ky.) on Saturday, Fauci wrote to himself that he was “going to arrange for a phone call with David in order to determine more details as to what is going on,” when referencing claims that he signed off on grants that could have led to the creation of COVID-19.

When testifying before a House subcommittee on June 3, 2024, Fauci told lawmakers, “With respect to his recent testimony before this Subcommittee, I knew nothing of Dr. Morens’ actions regarding Dr. [Peter] Daszak, EcoHealth, or his emails.”

Josh Christenson



Seattle shooter busted

A 15-year-old was arrested in connection with Sunday night’s senseless shooting at a popular Seattle food festival that left three dead and injured four, including a toddler, officials said.

Seattle Mayor Katie Wilson shared the update on the investigation on Monday while cops said another suspect died and the whereabouts of a third were still “unknown.”

“We believe this teenager opened fire in the crowd, but details are still under investigation,” Wilson said at a press conference.

The mayor said the unnamed teen is being investigated for firearms violations and first-degree assault.

A document filed at the juvenile court where the 15-year-old appeared stated that cops believed three shooters opened fire at the Bite of Seattle food festival, near the city’s iconic Space Needle.

Neither the mayor nor Seattle Police Chief Shon Barnes made reference to a third shooter at the press conference earlier in the day.

However, Barnes said they were looking into whether a second shooter was among those who died.

Two men, ages 19 and 44, and a 56-year-old woman were killed in the shooting, authorities said.

David DeTurris

Haiti sets prez elex

Haiti’s CEP electoral council on Monday scheduled the first presidential elections in a decade for December, with a runoff in February, after plans to hold the vote in August with a December runoff were postponed over security concerns.

Haiti has not held elections since 2016.

Its last president, Jovenel Moïse, was assassinated in 2021, after delaying a vote.

Successive governments have been tasked with holding an election but said insecurity amid a conflict with powerful armed gangs made it impossible. Reuters

THE BIDEN FILES

JOE CONFUSED!

BRAIN FOG: The newly released tapes were previously scrutinized by former special counsel Robert Hur (bottom) as part of his 2023-24 investigation into former President Joe Biden's retention of classified documents after leaving the vice presidency in 2017. According to the Oversight Project, the recordings prove "Biden was already demonstrating significant cognitive decline."

Bumbling top-secret docs talk on tape

‘Alright — what was I going to ask you? Something else . . . Uh . . . um. Oh gosh. I can’t think of anything else.’
— Joe Biden working on his 2017 memoir with biographer Mark Zwonitzer

from the roughly 70 hours of recordings.

"Some of this may be classified so be careful with it," the future 46th president warns his ghostwriter at one point. "I'm not sure . . . It's not marked classified but —."

On the tapes, Biden could be heard discovering classified material in real time as he leafed through papers with Zwonitzer nearby.

"The next thing I have here is, um, this is classified . . ." Biden says in another snippet.

The former president also described potentially classified White House meetings with Zwonitzer, according to CBS News, which first reviewed the tapes, including "a big meeting with the CIA and everyone," "a big meeting down in the Situation Room," and "a long meeting where DOD brief . . . POTUS."

In an Oct. 10, 2016, recording, Biden brags he retained notes without anyone being aware.

"I have extensive notes over this period of time . . . They didn't know I have this," he said, according to the outlet.

Hur found that Biden "willfully retained and disclosed classified materials" after leaving the vice presidency but refused to charge the then-sitting president because he would "likely present himself to a jury, as he did during our interview of him, as a sympathetic, well-meaning, elderly man with a poor memory."

The Oversight Project argued that the extent of Biden's disclosure of classified information is "much more egregious than previously disclosed" by Hur.

"At several points in the tapes, Biden references the information he is reviewing is likely classified, which is followed by significant audio redactions for classified information," the group said in a statement. "This was not just once or twice, these classified redactions cover significant portions of the audio files released."

"The listener shouldn't overlook the audio redactions because those redactions are intended to cover the disclosure of classified information," the group added.

Oversight Project Vice President Jeff Clark fumed that Biden "clearly gives away secret after secret to someone not authorized to hold such secrets."

A spokesperson for Biden did not immediately respond to The Post's request for comment.

his ghostwriter to "Hang on a second," while he apparently studies his notes. "Um . . . it's confusing me," the former president later says.

The tapes were previously scrutinized by former special counsel Robert Hur as part of his 2023-24 investigation into Biden's retention of classified documents after leaving the vice presidency in 2017.

According to the Oversight Project, the recordings prove "Biden was already demonstrating significant cognitive decline" when he began meeting with Zwonitzer — just a few months after leaving the Obama administration — for the 2017 book, "Promise Me, Dad: A Year of Hope, Hardship, and Purpose."

"In the sections of the audio tapes that were not redacted, Biden references his confused state of mind on many days," the group said in a statement.

"As we know occurred during his presidency, Biden was clearly

experiencing good days and bad days as far back as 2017."

During Zwonitzer's interviews with Biden the former president read "nearly verbatim" from notebooks that contained sensitive national security and foreign policy, according to Hur's 2024 report on the classified documents investigation.

'Found downstairs'

"So this was, I early on, um, in '09 I just found all the classified stuff downstairs," Biden is heard telling Zwonitzer in a snippet



AP/Getty Images

AFP via Getty Images

THE BATTLE FOR IRAN

Tehran hits Mideast with drones amid 'halt'

CHOKE POINT: A message taunting President Trump overlooks an intersection in downtown Tehran amid a flurry of drone launches.



**'Pause' itively
a provocation**

By RONNY REYES

Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Iraq fell under drone fire on Monday as Tehran appeared to test President Trump's order to pause strikes on Iran in favor of diplomacy.

Iran-backed militias in Iraq allegedly fired two drones at Saudi Arabia's petroleum facilities, Riyadh said, with fires reported at an Aramco site following another attack from the Houthi rebels.

The latest strikes threaten global oil supplies after the price of crude fell below \$90 on Monday following news of Trump's decision to stop bombing Iran over the weekend.

Oil prices had shot above \$100 a barrel last week for the first time since May as a result of America's 13-day bombing campaign and ongoing Iranian attacks on tankers in the Strait of Hormuz.

Prices were also affected by the Iran-backed Houthi terror group's attacks on the critical Red Sea trade route, which has forced Saudi oil tankers to re-route.

Supply concerns

The US strikes had mainly focused on Iran's military facilities threatening the oil choke point, with Trump suspending the campaign after being advised that the bombings had reached the limits of what it could achieve, sources told Reuters.

Gen. Dan Caine, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, had also expressed concerns over

the depletion of America's air-defense missiles, according to Reuters.

Trump said the intense campaign ended to make way for the developing peace talks with Iran, but warned that war could restart if progress isn't made.

Iran, meanwhile, has rejected the latest US peace proposal and launched a series of attacks on Monday.

Along with the strikes in Saudi Arabia, Jordan reported two drone interceptions on Monday, with Iraq citing a series of drone attacks on camps housing Iranian opposition Kurdish forces in the north.

Jordan and Iraq have come

under increased fire for housing US troops in the region, and are where four of the latest soldiers killed in the war were based.

Iran's military also intercepted another six ships on Monday that attempted to cross the Strait of Hormuz without its permission, with one ship reportedly suffering "an accident," according to Tehran's state media.

"As previously announced, the traffic route in the Strait of Hormuz is the route specified by Iran, and other routes are contaminated and have no way out," the state-run outlets reported. With Post wires



MELANIA TRUMP
Facing threats.

Lunatics now aim at Barron, Melania

First Lady Melania Trump and son Barron are the latest targets of Iran's sick anti-US propaganda.

A new video out of Iran is encouraging supporters of the Islamic regime to assassinate President Trump's wife.

Titled "How to Kill Melania Trump," the video shows images of the first lady in the motorcade and in some locations around New York City, even naming some of the designer stores where she shops.

The shopping excursions could be "suitable for operations by global freedom fighters," the video noted. It also suggested using a nerve agent to poison any clothes the first lady might purchase.

The East Wing and the Secret Service did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

At the end of the video, Barron Trump, 20, is also threatened.

"This is just the beginning. Barron Trump, wait for us."

Both the first lady and Barron have full-time Secret Service details. All the Trump residences — the White House, Trump Tower in New York, the Bedminster golf club and the Mar-a-Lago estate in Florida — are heavily secured.

The president's family has been repeatedly targeted since the war with Iran began.

Melania Trump has not had many public events this month. *Emily Goodin*

Baby, 1, bitten by Bx. man

A 1-year-old boy was bitten on his back — allegedly by his grandmother's boyfriend — inside the man's Bronx apartment overnight Monday, cops and sources said.

The baby was bitten at around 2 a.m. inside the bedroom of the man's sub-basement apartment on Fillmore Street near Morris Park Avenue in Van Nest, according to authorities and law-enforcement sources.

The older couple had taken the child into the room because loud music was playing elsewhere in the home, the sources said.

The boy's mother rushed into the bedroom when she heard her son screaming and the grandmother asking her boyfriend why he did that, the sources said.

The mom then left with the child and took him onto the subway heading toward Lincoln Medical Center, the sources said.

She called 911 from the subway station to report what had happened, the sources said.

The child was taken to the hospital, where he was listed in stable condition, police said. His skin was not broken, the sources said.

No arrests had been made several hours later, authorities said.

*Joe Marino,
Patrick Reilly and
Amanda Woods*

'Crazy' vibe in kin slay

A Queens man suspected of gunning down his sister and mother and blowing up their Far Rockaway home long had "something crazy about him," neighbors told The Post.

Kegan Thomas, 33, was wounded by NYPD cops on Saturday after his wife called 911.

Inside the home, police found the bodies of sister Selena Ponce, 28, and mom Clemer Ponce, 56.

"There was something crazy about him," neighbor John White said.

Thomas was in critical condition and has not been charged.

*Steven Vago
and Jorge Fitz-Gibbon*



Reuters

By GEORGIA WORRELL

Lindsay Clancy sobbed in court as she faced her ex-husband on Monday during the opening of her trial for killing her three children in January 2023 — as jurors saw haunting video of the former family of five enjoying a blissful vacation just days before unspeakable tragedy.

Clancy, who is paralyzed in a wheelchair after a suicide attempt, is arguing that she was suffering postpartum psychosis and had been prescribed 15 different medications in a ham-fisted attempt to treat her before she strangled 5-year-old Cora, 3-year-old Dawson and 8-month-old Callan with exercise bands. Her lawyers are putting up the insanity defense, arguing she was not legally in control of her actions and is not guilty of murder.

Chilling surveillance footage from the family's Jan. 15, 2023, trip to the Cape Codder indoor water park near the family home outside Boston showed Clancy playfully riding a waterslide with little Cora, as her ex-husband, Patrick Clancy, took the witness stand.

"Lindsay was always able to interact with our kids," Patrick testified in support of his ex-wife.

'Big spiral'

Patrick — who has moved to New York City and remarried since finding his kids dead in their home on Jan. 24, 2023 — said Clancy "seemed to be doing a lot better" during the vacation, despite being hospitalized twice for suicidal thoughts the month before.

He remained mostly stoic through hours of testimony — only becoming emotional when prosecutors displayed a photo of Cora smiling and posing in a shirt emblazoned with the word "Love," a red skirt and matching bow in her hair.

Clancy, meanwhile, visibly sobbed as jurors were shown the heart-wrenching family photos and video.

Details of the 35-year-old's worsening mental state leading up to the killings also emerged in court Monday, when attorneys on both sides revealed she had been pre-



USA Today Network via Reuters

EVIDENCE: This photo of Lindsay Clancy with her family was shown during her trial, where she is charged with killing her kids in a grisly scene (top left) — a tragedy Clancy blames on medication.

Sobs as ex-hubby testifies at slay trial

scribed at least 15 psychiatric medications from November 2022 to a day before the murders.

Patrick said his ex-wife's anxiety stemmed from the idea of returning to work and leaving her children after her 18 weeks of maternity leave expired that fall.

He said Clancy revealed she started taking Zoloft, a popular antidepressant, in September 2022, but "kept getting worse and worse" — despite the family hiring a nanny to help her with the kids and chores.

By December 2022, Clancy had devolved into a "big spiral" after starting to take the unusual antipsychotic medication Seroquel, Patrick recalled.

'I was exhausted'

"She started to say she was suicidal" and "described thoughts of hurting the kids or them having some sort of ailment," the father said, though he noted she promised that she did not have a plan to harm the children.

Patrick recalled rushing Clancy to the emergency room after she told her father she wanted to kill herself on Dec. 15, 2022. One doctor recommended inpatient medical treatment at McLean Hospital, while two others suggested a day program called Women and Infants in Providence, RI.

The ex-husband dropped Lindsay off at the day program and later picked her up when they decided it "wasn't the right fit" for her, he said.

By New Year's Eve, she was back in the hospital with more suicidal thoughts.

"I was exhausted," Patrick told the jury. "I said, 'I think it's time to go to McLean.' We didn't have a diagnosis, so we just didn't really know what was wrong."

The trial is expected to last up to two months.

Soros-fund group's Palestine link: report

By ISABEL VINCENT

A California children's charity funded by billionaire George Soros stands accused of sending cash that may have ended up in the hands of a Palestinian terrorist organization, according to a new report obtained by The Post.

Berkeley-based Middle East Children's Alliance features Democratic Rep. Maxine Waters and activist academic Noam Chomsky on its advisory board and claims to provide humanitarian aid to children in the Middle East.

Founded by husband-and-wife activists Barbara Lubin and Howard Levine in 1988, it has strayed far from its original mission and has been tied to a US-designated terrorist group, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, through its funding of other groups, according to a new report by the Network Contagion Research Institute.

Since the Hamas terrorist attacks against Israel on Oct. 7, 2023, MECA "emerged as a critical US charitable fundraising vehicle promoted across the pro-Palestinian activist ecosystem," according to the report.

"America built the most generous philanthropic infrastructure in human history," said Joel Finckelstein, an NCRI senior scientist. "When American foundations bankroll groups tied to foreign terrorist organizations, when senators, members of Congress and prestigious academics endorse it ... they're turning the country's own institutions against it."

Generic descriptions

But as MECA's grants to foreign groups grew exponentially, its reporting became less transparent, the NCRI report claims.

MECA brought in more than \$18 million in revenues in fiscal 2024, according to public records. That



Facebook/Middle East Children's Alliance/Getty Images (2)



Kid charity's 'terror tie\$'

same year, the group's payouts rose to nearly \$11 million — nearly five times the previous year — while "grant descriptions were progressively replaced with generic labels such as 'community projects,'" per NCRI.

By 2025, all foreign grants were described with generic labels, obscuring their true purpose, the report claims.

"The convergence of these findings raises concerns about whether donors in the United States may be unknowingly donating to a group that ultimately benefits a foreign terrorist organization," according to NCRI, a nonprofit that studies extremism.

Between 2017 and 2025, MECA's tax filings show \$35 million in foreign grant payouts, in total. Some of that money went to groups accused of being affiliated with the PFLP, including the

Union of Health Work Committees and the Union of Agricultural Work Committees, both based in the West Bank, territory under the control of the Palestinian Authority.

The UHWC and UAWC have both been designated as terror organizations by Israel and accused of funneling cash to PFLP, claims which they have denied.

Mona El-Farra, who once served as deputy director of UHWC, a PFLP "civil society" affiliate, has long overseen MECA's Gaza-based humanitarian projects, according to its website.

Doing so "demonstrates an overlapping, interconnected structure across organizations," the report says. "This is especially true given the fact that MECA has funded the UHWC, El-Farra's former group."

In addition to Waters, an 18-term congresswoman who represents California's 43rd District,

MECA previously included poet and civil rights activist Maya Angelou, who died in 2014, on its advisory board.

Pro-Palestine protests

MECA also has links to anti-Israel organizations financed by China-based US tech millionaire Neville Singham.

Last week, the powerful House Ways and Means Committee subpoenaed three nonprofits connected to Singham, including The People's Forum and Tricontinental: Institute for Social Research, for failing to cough up a "single responsive document" in response to the committee's prior requests for information over the fate of \$39 million routed from Singham to the US groups.

The Department of Justice has also separately opened a probe into the Marxist millionaire's

personal dealings, according to reports.

Meanwhile, MECA was on the founding committee of the ANSWER Coalition, a Marxist-Leninist anti-war group created days after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, according to the NCRI.

ANSWER coordinated many of the pro-Hamas protests in the US after Oct. 7. Lubin, who died last year, was known as a "leading ANSWER activist." MECA paid ANSWER \$1,000 for a stage rental in 2004, per public filings.

In 2004, ANSWER was behind the creation of the Party for Socialism and Liberation, which is bankrolled by Singham and also conducts fundraising for MECA, the report claims.

Singham did not respond to a request for comment.

George Soros' Open Society Foundations gave MECA a total of \$900,000 between 2017 and 2024, according to public filings.



Slashed women ‘for Allah’

A knife-wielding madman said he was being “commanded” by Allah when he cut down three women on the streets of Paris Monday, including a pregnant expectant mother in a shocking caught-on-camera attack.

The horrifying assault unfolded Monday in the north of Paris at Porte de Clichy, near the Paris Court.

The man — seen in social media video with long, dark hair and wearing a cream-colored tracksuit — stalked the sidewalk clutching a pair of butcher knives.

He attacked three women, aged 19, 24 and 36, before good Samaritans confronted and took him down, putting an end to the rampage.

Two of them were seriously wounded but are expected to survive, Interior Minister Laurent Nunez told reporters.

Another video shows the attacker lying on the ground surrounded by bystanders with the knives strewn on a nearby pedestrian crossing.

“It is Allah who commanded me,” the man declared.

The motive of the attack remains unknown, Nunez said, adding police could not verify the identity of the attacker, whose declarations were “incoherent” while being arrested.

Chris Nesi

The beast was sneaky

An oblivious fisherman at Yellowstone National Park was alerted to a behemoth bison creeping up on him after his fast-thinking wife came to his rescue, wild video shows.

Footage from July 19 shows the trawler casting his rod in a nearby stream as the big bovine is seen approaching.

Kristi Wilt, who shot the video, said she was unsure what to do, afraid the beast might go “charging” into the outdoorsman.

But a quick-thinking driver right behind her had the bright idea to lay on the horn — alerting the fisher to the hulking bison behind him.

David DeTurris

Demand towers above rest



Streetsense



LUXE ON ITS SIDE: Tenants pay up to \$45,000 a month for luxurious condos (above) in the Langdon (left).

Talk about movin’ on up to the East Side — and to a deluxe apartment in the sky.

A new luxury rental tower on the Upper East Side is drawing tenants willing to pay as much as \$45,000 a month — arriving at a moment when deep-pocketed apartment hunters in that area have almost nothing new to choose from, The Post has learned.

The Langdon, a 24-story, 45-unit

building at 288 E. 88th St. developed by Alchemy-ABR Investment Partners alongside the Carlyle Group, opened for leasing earlier this month and has already moved a chunk of its inventory off the market.

Asking rents on available units run from roughly \$12,400 for a two-bedroom to that \$45,000 a month for penthouses spanning five bedrooms — making it the

most expensive rental building in the neighborhood.

The residences themselves lean into that same quiet luxury sensibility. Apartments across the one-to five-bedroom layouts favor oversized windows and thoughtful finishes throughout, with recessed lighting, smart climate systems and keyless entry built in as standard rather than upgrades.

Mary K. Jacob

FLAT-OUT STUNNER

By MARY K. JACOB

Rich New Yorkers are scoring the city’s best rent deals.

A new analysis by the Wall Street Journal of the city’s 2023 Housing and Vacancy Survey — the most recent data available — found that some of the sweetest deals in the five boroughs’ rent-stabilization program are landing in the laps of its wealthiest tenants, not its neediest.

Right now, wealthy households make up about 10% of the entire rent-stabilized stock, according to a Citizens Budget Commission analysis of 2023 data. Of those, more than 86,700 households reported earning above \$200,000 a year.

High earners in the top 25% bracket who live in rent-stabilized apartments pay roughly \$1,000 less per month than they would at market rate, a savings of 33%.

Rent stabilization going to the rich

Top earners in the 10% bracket do even better, pocketing \$1,300 in monthly savings, a 36% discount. Compare that to renters in the bottom three income brackets, who save closer to \$300 a month, or between 15% and 22%.

Can’t check income

Part of the disparity comes down to geography. Wealthier tenants tend to cluster in pricier neighborhoods, where the gap between market rate and stabilized rent is naturally wider, even if the

stabilized rate still comes with a hefty price tag.

“You do have people paying \$5,000, \$6,000 or \$8,000 for rent-stabilized apartments,” Allia Mohamed, CEO of the rental data firm Openigloo, told the Journal.

The rest of the gap is baked into the system itself. Rent stabilization in New York was never designed to check a tenant’s bank account.

“I can’t imagine trying to do an income certification for like a million units,” Brad Greenburg, executive director of NYU’s Furman Center, added. “Administratively,

it feels impossible.”

Those well-off tenants are about to get an even better deal, courtesy of Mayor Mamdani’s rent freeze, which kicks in this October.

The borough breakdown shows just how uneven the savings really are. In Manhattan, stabilized units go for about half of what market rate would charge. In The Bronx, that discount shrinks to just 12%. Queens renters save 13%, while Brooklyn tenants land in the middle with a 24% break.

Most rent-stabilized tenants are far from wealthy, and the bulk of these apartments sit in The Bronx and Washington Heights, with additional pockets in Brooklyn and Queens.

Still, with a million units scattered across the city, economists say it was a matter of time before some of that inventory ended up benefiting high earners, too.

A SAVE situation

Trump presses Thune on bill

By EMILY GOODIN

WASHINGTON — President Trump urged Senate Majority Leader John Thune on Monday to keep the chamber in session until it passes the SAVE America Act or ends the 60-vote legislative filibuster.

“John Thune should not allow the United States Senate to ‘leave town’ until it passes The Save America Act or, far better still, **TERMINATES THE FILIBUSTER**, where Republicans can then quickly pass everything they ever dreamed of,” Trump wrote on Truth Social, adding in a subsequent post: “Whichever Party Terminates the Filibuster **FIRST** will be the Party that survives and thrives. If the Dumocrats win this race, however, America will rapidly become nothing more than a Third World Nation!”

Tensions have increased between Trump and Thune (R-SD) over the president’s desire to see his controversial voting bill passed. Thune has repeatedly insisted that Republicans do not have the votes to do so through regular order.

‘Good relationship’

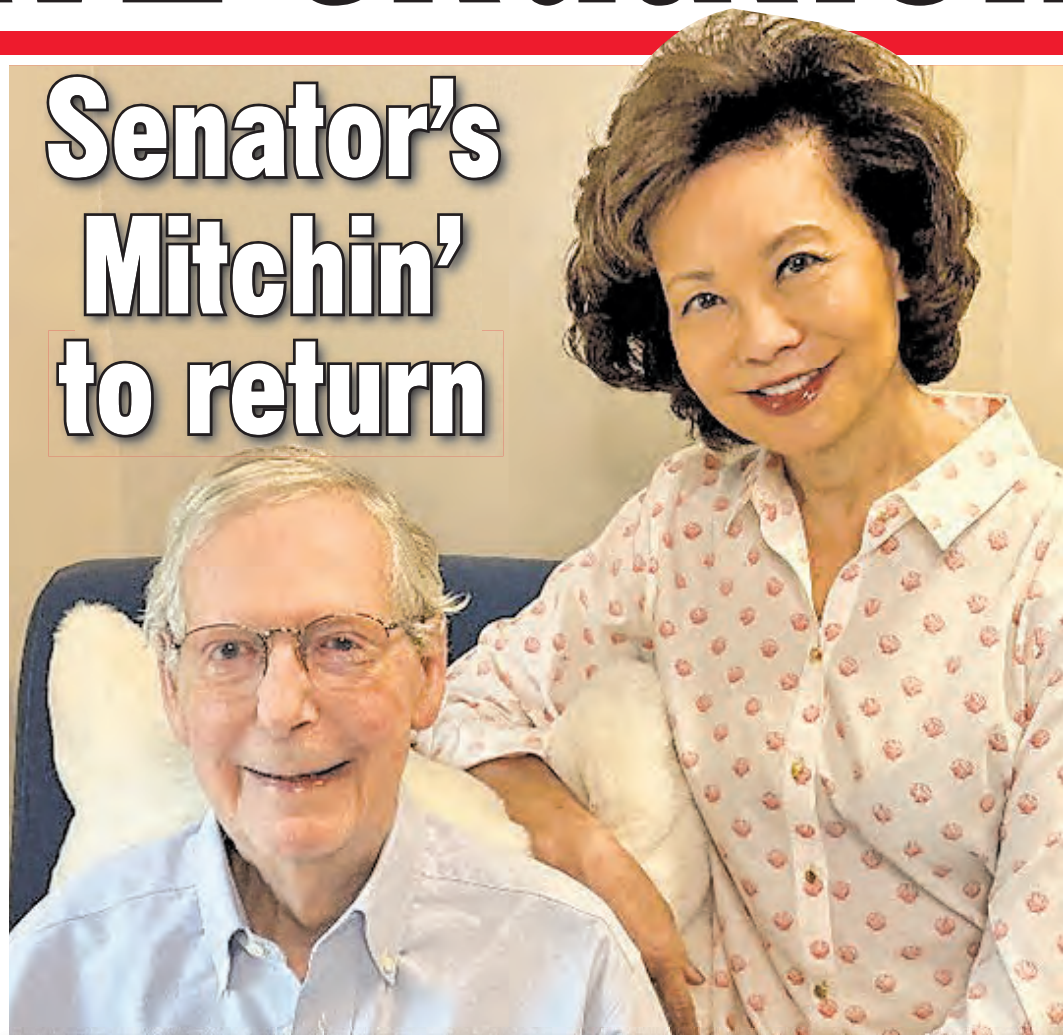
En route to Michigan for an event Monday, Trump reiterated to reporters aboard Air Force One that the majority leader has “got to get his job done.”

“It’s fine. I have a good relationship with John Thune,” the president added. “He’s just got to get his job done. You got to get the SAVE America Act passed, or better than that would be the filibuster. If you terminate the filibuster, everything happens.”

When asked if he wanted Thune replaced as Senate Republican leader, Trump insisted: “I haven’t even thought of it.”

Monday’s comments came after White House press secretary Ka-

Senator’s Mitchin’ to return



WASHINGTON — Sen. Mitch McConnell was all smiles Monday as he posed for a photo demonstrating his recovery from a fall at his Capitol Hill home last month.

The 84-year-old has not yet been medically cleared to return to the Senate, which is scheduled to adjourn for a five-week recess beginning Aug. 10.

McConnell (R-Ky.) will miss Tuesday’s memorial service

for his late colleague, Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-SC), at Washington National Cathedral, as well as Saturday’s Fancy Farm picnic, the traditional start of the fall campaign season in Kentucky.

“I’m still working hard to get back to my full schedule of work in the Senate and in Kentucky, keeping up with intense physical therapy per my doctors’ orders. Unfortunately, that means I won’t be able to

make it to Fancy Farm, Kentucky, this Saturday,” he said.

In a separate statement, the Capitol’s Office of Attending Physician said that its doctors are visiting with McConnell every day “discussing all aspects of his rehabilitation care.”

McConnell posed for Monday’s photo with his wife, former Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao.

Samuel Chamberlain and Emily Goodin

Reuters

roline Leavitt told reporters this past Thursday that Trump’s “patience is running out” with Thune.

“Maybe she or somebody else ought to get on the phone and get the votes,” the majority leader shot back in response. “Right? It [takes] 50 around here.”

A day earlier, Trump had told supporters in Georgia that “the Senate is a place you send things when you want them to die” and urged them to call Thune to demand he pass the SAVE America Act, which would require Americans to show proof of citizenship

before registering to vote and provide photo identification before casting a ballot.

Many senators support keeping the 60-vote filibuster as a tool to influence legislation while in the minority.

Thune has also said he wants to prioritize avoiding a government shutdown, which is currently set to begin at 11:59 p.m. EDT Sept. 30 and could hurt Republicans’ standing in the November midterm elections.

The Senate is in its last two weeks of session before an ex-

tended recess, with lawmakers due to return to DC on Sept. 14.

Before leaving for its August recess last week, the House of Representatives passed a stopgap measure that would fund the government until Dec. 4. Some Senate Republicans want to tack the SAVE America Act onto the budget resolution.

Republicans also want to pass a Russian sanctions bill championed by the late Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-SC), who died suddenly July 11 and whose funeral is this week.

Flip quip from dad kid ‘killer’

The Canadian coffee entrepreneur charged with drowning his 9-year-old daughter in upstate Lake George last summer chillingly told an investigator how it “would’ve been easier” to murder the young girl overseas, a jury heard Monday.

Lucian Frattolin, 46, made the bizarre comment to State Police investigator Daniel Mauro following hours of grilling the morning after he claimed July 19, 2025, that his daughter, Melina, had been kidnapped.

As the father’s story about Melina’s abduction began to unravel during four hours of questioning, Mauro asked Frattolin if he had any reason to kill his own daughter, Mauro testified during the second week of the dad’s murder trial in Essex County Court.

Frattolin coolly responded that there’s no way he would do it in the US because “it would have been a lot easier” in his native Ethiopia or Italy, where he had dual citizenship, Mauro told the courtroom.

Frattolin also tried to turn the spotlight on his ex-wife and Melina’s mother, Kali Galanis, who he claimed was abusive to the girl, during the interview in the barracks of a Queensbury jail.

Vaughn Golden

Nut’s tongue sticker shock

A maniac stuck out his tongue for his mug shot months after he allegedly fatally struck a father and severely injured his wife and young daughter in a head-on collision in Tennessee.



James Brewington Jr., 61, surrendered last Thursday, roughly eight months after allegedly killing Dustin McLeod, 41, in a crash, according to the Metropolitan Nashville Police Department. The twisted jokester appeared disheveled with a scraggly beard and stuck out his tongue in his mug shot (inset). *Zoe Hussain*

Kurvy Kim pops up in LA

Kim Kardashian's figure has more twists and turns than an LA freeway Sunday in a black, low-cut bodysuit with sheer overlay by Ludovic de Saint Serninas, as she leaves a Melrose Avenue pop-up marking the national expansion of her UPDATE energy drink.

BACKGRID

Body ID'd as missing upstater

Remains found by kayakers in a Florida canal in May 2024 have been identified as those of an upstate woman who disappeared more than 40 years ago.

DNA testing confirmed that they belonged to Rose Marie Gayhart, 23, the Cape Coral police said Friday. The case now was being considered an active homicide investigation, they said.

Gayhart was reported missing by her parents in Dansville in March 1985. At the time, she had been living in the Cape Coral and North Fort Myers area, police said.

She had moved to a trailer park in North Fort Myers on Christmas Day 1984 from New York with her boyfriend and his mother, said Gayhart's sister, Laurie Travis.

Travis said that neighbors of her sister believed she was murdered.

Some neighbors also believed Gayhart was pregnant and trying to go home, but her boyfriend refused to let her leave, Southwest Florida Crime Stoppers reported.

Others believed the boyfriend's mother had her own reasons for wanting Gayhart gone.

"My mother got a letter from his mom, stated that she got the bus ticket for her [Gayhart] and everything; that she was hanging in bars and she was no good and she was sending her back to my mother, and then she never came back," Travis told Fort Myers' WINK.

Richard Pollina



'FAST' AID FOR BRAIN

Limit eat times: study

By RACHEL SACKS

Looks like eating more throughout the day doesn't just affect your waistline, it may also wreak havoc on your brain.

Research presented at NUTRITION 2026, the annual meeting of the American Society for Nutrition, has found a potential link between cognitive health and eating schedule.

A small clinical trial found that limiting eating to certain hours not only impacts weight, but may also provide modest cognitive benefits.

Obesity, particularly as we age, is a risk factor for cognitive decline, as excess fat tissue contributes to inflammation that can damage the brain.

"Losing weight alone will ward off some of the aging-related cognitive decline," Sue Shapses, principal investigator of the study, said in a press release.

But these benefits may only happen if you stick to a shorter window of eating, with a strict cutoff before bedtime.

The study suggests that limiting eating to an 8- or 9-hour window per day and stopping four hours before bed could improve cognitive skills in older adults.

Forty-seven overweight or obese women ages 50 to 79 who were participating in a six-month weight-loss program were recruited for the study. Participants were in-

structed to cut daily calorie intake by 500 calories. Twenty-six were also asked to consume all food within nine hours each day, while the rest continued eating across a typical period of 12 hours.

The time-restricted group generally ate over the course of an eight-hour window from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Better on tests

After six months, weight loss was similar in both groups, each losing around 15 pounds.

However, those who stuck to the eight-hour window performed significantly better on tests measuring spatial planning, problem solving, memory and learning.

"These outcomes suggest a better ability to remember information during everyday tasks and reducing mistakes related to memory, attention and problem-solving," Shapses said.

While this study was small, future research can determine if cognitive improvements apply to larger populations, as well as explain why meal timing might affect the brain.

The researchers believe several explanations could account for the modest brain boost, including interactions among circadian rhythm, inflammation, metabolic health and biological pathways that help the body sense and respond to nutrients.

Surfer gets 'great' closeup

A great white shark was filmed leaping out of the water just yards from a boogie boarder in Southern California.

Soaren Stevenson, the Orange County man who spotted the shark, told KTLA that he was filming his brother Saturday in Newport Beach when he noticed the shark erupting out of the wa-

ter in the background of the video.

Christopher Lowe, a professor of marine biology and director of the California State University, Long Beach Shark Lab, said the shark was apparently a young great white and that it was likely trying to scratch an itch or having fun.

According to the lab, great white sharks can live upward of 70 years.

Marina Peña

A-Rod & gal pal hit fast home-r

Page Six®

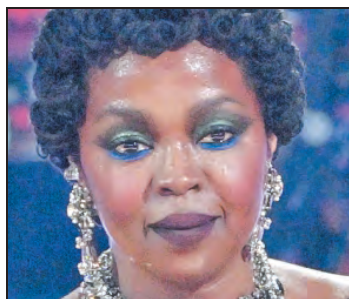
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Lil's mane hustle

LIL Wayne is not horsing around. Page Six recently reported he is part of a horse racing syndicate with fellow rapper **Lil Yachty** and that one of their stable ran in the Belmont Stakes. Now, we hear that Run Fast Racing — which also includes music mogul **Adam Kluger**, Puerto Rican superstar **Rauw Alejandro** and horse man **Glenn Sorgenstein** — scored a big win when another one of their ponies, **Listenupshance**, captured Saturday's \$400,000 Grade 1 Bing Crosby Stakes in Del Mar, Calif., by a nose. The 4-year-old horse, ridden by **Emisael Jaramillo**, punched his ticket to the Breeders' Cup Sprint on Oct. 31 with the breakthrough victory.



Behind the beat

IT'S the Fu-Gee-Late. Habitually tardy **Lauryn Hill** lived up to her reputation Sunday when she showed up late to a pop-up she hosted at the fashion mecca Dover Street Market New York. An insider claimed the "Everything Is Everything" singer (above) was 90 minutes late but more than made up for it by staying an extra two hours to sign exclusive DSM merch in Kips Bay. "She was in a great mood. Fans were crying, and someone brought their guitar for her to sign. She was a real class act," they said. "She was super cool with the kids."

THEY'VE skipped the warmup and are going straight to heavy lifting.

Alex Rodriguez and his new fitness trainer girlfriend, **Meghan Hayden**, are already living together, a source tells Page Six.

We hear the pair — who were first spotted at **Michael Rubin's** star-studded white party in the Hamptons at the beginning of July — have rented a house out East together for the summer.

The romance now appears to be moving at a full sprint.

The former Yankee's new relationship comes after his split from longtime girlfriend **Jaclyn Cordeiro**.

They dated for three years before quietly calling it quits around March.

"Alex and I are currently taking some time apart, but there continues to be mutual love, care and deep respect between us and for our families," Cordeiro, also a bodybuilder, told TMZ in May. "We remain supportive of one another, and there is absolutely no animosity, drama or negative story here."

Cordeiro added that she was also "navigating a serious health matter involving a family member at this time."

A-Rod and Hayden have been spotted around the Hamptons several times over the last month, hanging out at Bounce Beach in

Montauk and walking around Sag Harbor.

Hayden taught a workout class at the Surf Lodge in Montauk this weekend hosted by the new fitness-based dating app Ateam. The former Division 1 athlete is an investor and member of the app's founding committee.

The app is offering classes at the hot spot all season. While **Sailor Brinkley Cook**, **Jenne Lombardo** and a number of influencers made the class this weekend, sadly A-Rod was missing.

Page Six was the first to reveal that A-Rod is dating Hayden.

A rep for A-Rod and Hayden did not respond to a request for comment.



This married couple sticks together. **Benny Blanco** — dressed for the occasion in facial stickers — and **Selena Gomez** snuggle on a yacht off Portofino, Italy.

BACKGRID

Request d-E!-nied

IT was a no-go for E! at the Hetrick-Martin Institute's annual School's Out benefit for LGBTQIA+ youth. We hear the network wanted to film "Real Housewives of New York City" reboot "The Golden Life," but the venue said they couldn't roll the cameras. The stars stuck around anyway, including **Luann de Lesseps**, **Kelly Bensimon** and **Dorinda Medley**, plus **Andy Cohen**, **Lion Babe**, **Jamie Hannah** and synchronized male aquatic acrobats performed, along with **Crystal Waters**. When technical issues messed up her backing tracks, Waters instead performed "Gypsy Woman" three times in a row. Also spotted were **Tamron Hall**, **Rolonda Watts**, **Peter Som** and **Isaac Boots**.



Folk singer falls ill

CARLY Simon revealed yesterday she has been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease and had skin cancer. "So many people have written to me, kindly wondering about my relative silence," the singer, 83, said. "I've been learning how to live with Parkinson's." Simon (above, in 2016) said her health problems began with arthritis in her knees and hip, and she underwent joint replacement surgeries. She was later diagnosed with Parkinson's. Simon said she also had surgery on her face for basal cell carcinoma. "Between my mobility issues, the Parkinson's diagnosis, the surgery and the emotional effects of it all, withdrawing from public view was the most palatable reaction," she said. Simon's next album is out Aug. 14.

Suri Cruising free from famous father

SURI Cruise has officially severed ties with her estranged dad. The 20-year-old daughter of **Tom Cruise** and **Katie Holmes** legally dropped Cruise and changed her last name to Noelle, Page Six's **Bernie Zilio** exclusively reports. Public records show she used the moniker Suri Noelle when she registered to vote in Allegheny, Pa., during her freshman year at Carnegie Mellon University in October 2024. Pennsylvania courts confirmed to Page Six that residents must register to vote using their legal name. We can also confirm Suri did not file a name change request in Allegheny

County, suggesting that she may have done so in New York, where she lived with Holmes before moving for college. The rising thespian, who hasn't had a relationship with Tom for most of her life, first made headlines for not using his surname in the ceremony pamphlet of her graduation from LaGuardia HS in June 2024. It's unclear exactly when Suri Noelle became her legal moniker. Reps for Tom and Holmes did not respond to Page Six's requests for comment.

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Good like?

Good natural light?

Space for cats?

HOA fees included?

What's nearby?

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Lighting Conditions

This home is designed to maximize natural light with expansive windows, elevated ceilings, and an open layout.

Key light-enhancing features:

- Large Windows: Fill living spaces with light and outdoor views.
- Transom Windows: Bring in additional daylight while maintaining privacy.
- Elevated Ceilings: Help light flow throughout the home more evenly.

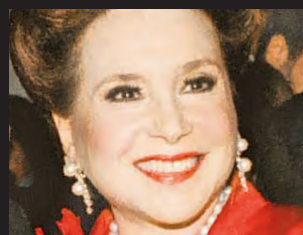


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Impersonated by robots



Cindy Adams

I HAVE recently been minding my own business. Not a great idea for writing a column. However, that's until my editors finally get to reading the big words I'm using. Like the other night at Due's for dinner, I can excitedly report **Bruce Blakeman** was stuffing his wide open mouth with steak. Maybe won't grab a headline — or even a governor's chair — but at least I was doing the job.

My point: I do not require assistance from a machine nor from some slapped-together metallic object unless it can also clean my kitchen.

So recently a friend slapped my name onto AI and requested it churn out a column “specifically in the voice of **Cindy Adams**. Specifically in the way she'd speak.”

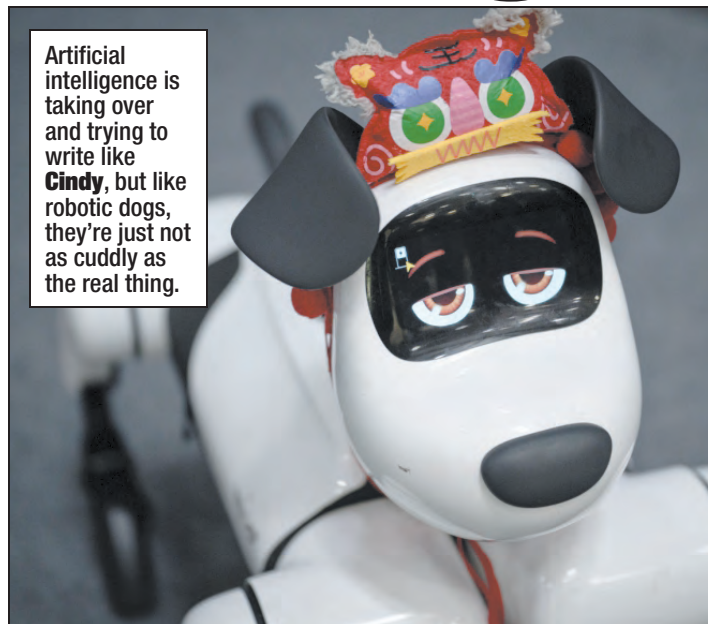
In less time than it takes me to snarl at Zero Crapdammy — it did. In seconds. Not great, but it definitely smelled like a kindergarten version of me. Not good — but not bad. We were alone. Just she and I — just the two of us. And a robot “Cindy” was telling us about rescue dogs. It (or I) tuned in and turned on.

Artificial overture

Over an artichoke my friend told me: “I can now write a column exactly like you do.” And while I sat, she said, “It will use your same smartass English and with AI it will sound just like you.” And she did. And it did.

The story had just been reported about dogs being utilized for medical experiments. Both of us, animal lovers, own dogs. We were horrified. And from this machine that didn't look like me, and while I sat motionless alongside her — my so-called phraseology burbled this:

Artificial intelligence is taking over and trying to write like **Cindy**, but like robotic dogs, they're just not as cuddly as the real thing.



“Only in New York, kids, do we ditch the high-maintenance divas for a bunch of long-eared, sad-eyed rescue beagles who have got more star quality than half the room who were canceling frauds and lunching at the Grill.

“So I'm walking — while my driver is idling — near the park.

Some bigshot charity's doing a dog thing. Not my **Jellybean**, who is a high-class New Yorkie and stays home on the Frette linens. No. This is for beagles. The escape artists, the ones who used to be in labs or locked in cages.

“Sad faces? Forget about it. These hounds have droopy ears

that drag in the risotto and eyes that look like they're judging your last face-lift. They didn't ask for a tragedy, yet here they are, doing the circuit like former European royalty at a charity gala.

“The society dames — real ones, not the Instagram pretendees — are scooping them up. Mink cats mixed with wet fur.”

Battle of the bots

Etc., etc. It goes on or I go on for more paragraphs. NOT ME. Them. That thing. How would I not know if some wacko sicko is not parading around sounding off like me! Saying terrible frightening things against our country, our president, our city, our way of life. How do we now protect ourselves?!

Goes on — and on — so how could a Me or some mechanism spouting “MY” words not be taken by anyone? No matter what they're saying or planning against mankind, my country, my city, my life?

Where? How? While billionaires from everyplace but maybe downtown Rwanda — are fighting for this — what is *our* protection?

John Ricky/Anadolu/Getty Images

Post Weather Report

Tuesday

Today: A couple of showers and a heavy t-storm. High 74 to 80.
Tonight: Cloudy, heavy t-storms; humid. Low 66 to 72.

Wednesday

Tomorrow: A couple of showers and a heavy t-storm. High 74 to 80.
Tomorrow night: Mostly cloudy, showers around. Low 65 to 71.

Thursday

A shower. High 75 to 81.
Evening Mostly cloudy. Low 65 to 71.

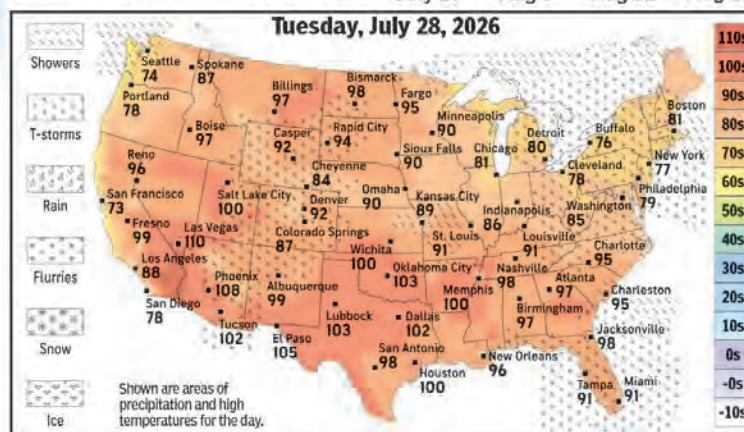
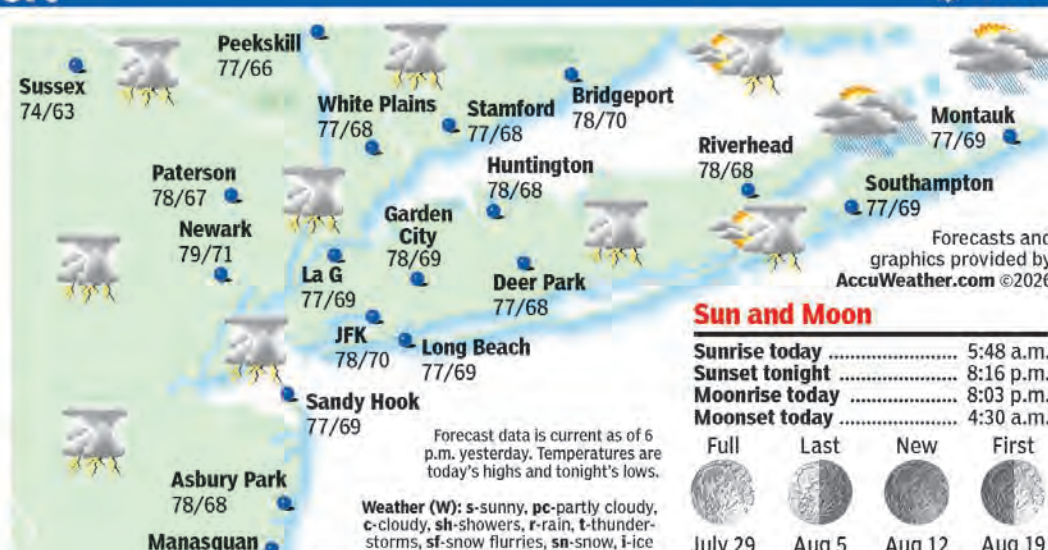
Friday

Showers around. High 80 to 86.
Evening Partly cloudy. Low 66 to 72.

Almanac

YESTERDAY'S CONDITIONS AT CENTRAL PARK THROUGH 6PM

Temperature
High: 83, Low: 70, Mean: 77
Departure from Normal
Yesterday: -1 degrees
Precipitation
Yesterday: 0.00", Month: 3.69",
Year: 21.51", Normal year to date: 27.65"
Cooling Degree days yesterday 12
Total for the month (normal) 326 (341)
Total since Jan. 1 (normal) 726 (649)
Last year to date 711
Heat Index (at noon yest.) 86
UV index (for Tue.) 3 (Moderate)
Humidity (at noon) 58%
AIR QUALITY
Pollen: Low Predominant pollen: Grass, Weeds
AQI rating: (for Tue.).....Moderate



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New York Tides	TODAY		TOMORROW	
	1st	2nd	1st	2nd
High Tide for	7:44a	7:56p	8:24a	8:33p
Coney Island	7:36a	8:10p	8:19a	8:47p
Fire Island	11:56a	11:52p	12:26p	---
Hempstead	11:40a	11:43p	12:15p	---
Huntington	7:28a	7:40p	8:08a	8:17p
Jones Inlet	9:03a	9:22p	9:47a	10:01p
Montauk Point	12:06p	---	12:00a	12:36p
Port Washington	7:48a	8:00p	8:28a	8:37p
Sandy Hook				

Regional cities	TODAY		TOMORROW	
Albany	78/67/t		75/64/r	
Danbury	76/68/t		75/64/t	
Glens Falls	78/65/t		72/61/r	
Gr Barrington	76/65/t		74/63/t	
Kingston	76/65/t		77/65/t	
Liberty	71/61/t		71/62/t	
Monticello	72/64/t		71/61/t	
Newburgh	77/65/t		77/66/t	
Poughkeepsie	77/66/t		77/66/t	
Saratoga Springs	78/65/t		74/64/r	
Stroudsburg	73/63/t		75/63/t	
Torrington	75/66/t		75/64/t	
Syracuse	75/67/t		74/64/t	

World cities	TODAY		TOMORROW	
Athens	97/80/s		95/78/s	
Baghdad	112/90/s		115/91/s	
Beijing	95/77/pc		95/80/t	
Berlin	76/57/sh		86/63/s	
Cairo	97/77/pc		101/78/pc	
Dublin	77/60/c		70/51/sh	
Geneva	90/65/s		96/63/s	
Hong Kong	87/80/t		85/80/sh	
Jerusalem	86/68/s		88/70/s	
Kabul	92/67/pc		93/68/pc	
London	86/61/pc		92/63/s	
Madrid	102/74/s		102/74/s	
Mexico City	75/56/r		76/56/r	
Montreal	81/67/t		73/65/t	
Moscow	82/58/t		62/58/sh	
Paris	89/65/s		98/68/s	
Rio de Janeiro	81/71/pc		87/71/s	
Rome	92/73/s		94/72/s	
Sydney	71/52/s		66/44/s	
Tokyo	88/76/sh		95/78/t	

Toddler drowning deaths

Two Long Island toddlers drowned to death in separate backyard pool mishaps just days apart from each other, Suffolk County police said.

A 2-year-old girl died July 23 after she was found unresponsive in the backyard pool of her Mastic home on July 20, cops said.

Then, just one day later, a 3-year-old drowned during a family party in Central Islip, according to officials.

The child had been discovered by relatives, officials said.

Both were rushed to nearby hospitals in critical condition before they were pronounced dead, police said.

Aside from the two toddlers, there have been at least five other water-related deaths in Suffolk since the beginning of May, according to police.

Officials issued a dire warning for summer, saying earlier this month that there have been at least 50 water rescue-related calls in Suffolk so far this year — resulting in at least seven deaths.

In 2025, Suffolk County saw 16 drownings and nearly 120 water rescue-related calls, officials said.

Meanwhile, Nassau had 13 water rescue-related calls for the year as of the middle of July, with one death so far this year, according to police.

Last summer, Nassau cops said they responded to nine calls, and two people died.

Drowning is the leading cause of death for children ages 1 to 4 across the US, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Brandon Cruz*

HELL ON WHEELS



WHEELY STUPID: Two hundred ATV and motorbike riders — many concealing their identities — did wheelies and sped down Route 347 on Saturday.

LI street takeover stunts, cop chase

By BRANDON CRUZ

A rowdy street takeover threw three Long Island towns into chaos on Saturday as 200 obnoxious ATV and motorbike-riding goons pulled boneheaded stunts and clashed with cops, officials said.

The mayhem that unfolded through main thoroughfares and residential streets sparked a flurry of 911 calls and ended with three arrests and at least 10 vehicles impounded in Hauppauge, Brentwood and Bay Shore, Suffolk County police said.

Video obtained by The Post shows hordes of selfie-obsessed bozos hogging both lanes of traffic on Route 347 in Hauppauge — with many of the reckless posse wearing masks, bandanas and sunglasses to conceal their identities.

The riders pulled death-defying wheelies and loudly sped down residential streets while their pals filmed them in what may have been a social media stunt, the clips show.

There were so many ATVs and

bikes that the amateur stunts were unfolding mere inches away from each other, with some of the dimwits nearly falling over or crashing into each other, according to the footage.

Police said that after motorists and residents flooded 911 with complaints, officers broke up the meetup in Hauppauge and arrested Ava Mongiello, 23, and Jahkil Arroyo, 29, while impounding

several bikes. But a bunch of the gang regrouped near Motor Parkway in Brentwood, then barreled toward Bay Shore, cops said.

Cops caught up with the riders again around 6:30 p.m. in Bay Shore, after two ATVs broke down, but their riders took off running — resulting in police tackling Shamir Solomon, 22, to the ground, cops said. Officials said he was carrying a loaded gun.

Mongiello and Arroyo were both charged with reckless driving, reckless endangerment and unlawfully fleeing a police officer. They were issued desk appearance tickets and let go, police said.

Solomon was hit with charges of criminal possession of a weapon, unlawful speed contest and reckless driving — which could land him in prison for up to 15 years if convicted on the gun charge.

Solomon was held overnight and was arraigned in Central Islip on Sunday, when he pleaded not guilty and was released on \$10,000 bail, according to the New York State court database.

US Consulate shooting in Toronto is 2nd in '26

A shooter fired at the US Consulate in Toronto on Monday in the second attack on the building this year — and cops were hunting for a car that fled in a high-speed pursuit.

An officer stationed at the US Consulate heard a gunshot and noticed a white

Honda Accord with no license plates speeding away around 4:46 a.m., Toronto Police Service Deputy Chief Frank Barredo said Monday.

Officers located the vehicle and began chasing it — but were forced to stop due to the danger posed by the suspect's speed and a lack

of aerial support.

One shell casing was recovered at the consulate, and there was some damage to its facade, Barredo said.

Nobody was injured in the “reckless” attack, the deputy chief added.

“We will approach this investigation with great seri-

ousness,” Barredo said. “We will bring the people responsible for this to justice.”

Toronto Mayor Olivia Chow vowed to catch whoever was behind the “brazen attack.”

Police last month caught two suspects, Sheldon Tracy-Stewart, 18, and Zara

Jabbi, 19, for their alleged roles in a March 10 attack.

Tracy-Stewart and Jabbi allegedly fired multiple shots from a handgun at the building before fleeing in a stolen vehicle.

Constable Marc Pinizzotto, 43, was killed in a gun battle with Jabbi and an-

other teen — Nicholas Bennett — in June while investigating the shooting at the US Consulate.

Bennett was hit with first-degree murder charges in connection with his death. Jabbi escaped the shootout but was later arrested.

Zoe Hussain, with Wires

